

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
BILLINGS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSHUA DON RAY,
Defendant.

CR-16-47-BLG-SPW-CSO-03

**FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATION OF
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

The Defendant, by consent, appeared before me under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 and entered a plea of guilty to Count IV of the Indictment, which charges the crime of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. Section 841(a)(1).

Defendant also admitted to the forfeiture allegation contained in the Indictment. Defendant agrees to abandon all right title and interest in the property described in Count IV paragraph 2 of the Indictment and to execute a release and waiver to that effect.

After examining the Defendant under oath, the Court determined:

1. That the Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed and voluntary plea to the criminal offense charged against him;

2. That the Defendant is aware of the nature of the charge against him and the consequences of pleading guilty to the charge;

3. That the Defendant fully understands his pertinent constitutional rights and the extent to which he is waiving those rights by pleading guilty to the criminal offense charged against him; and

4. That his plea of guilty to the criminal offense charged against him is knowingly and voluntarily entered, and is supported by independent factual grounds sufficient to prove each of the essential elements of the offense charged.

The Court further notes that Defendant entered the guilty plea without a written plea agreement and counsel represented that no plea agreement offers were made.

Therefore, I recommend that the Defendant be adjudged guilty of the charge in the Indictment and that sentence be imposed.

Objections to these Findings and Recommendation are waived unless filed and served within fourteen (14) days after the filing of the

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Findings and Recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B); Fed. R. Crim. P 59(b)(2).

DATED this 18th Day of August, 2016.

/s/ Carolyn S. Ostby
United States Magistrate Judge